



MENDON HISTORICAL COMMISSION

20 Main Street
Mendon, MA 01756
historical@mendonma.gov
Wayne Wagner Chairman
Jane Lowell
Ellen Wagner
Don Colanton
Michael Goddard
Kathleen Schofield

Meeting Date	May 11, 2016 at 7pm
Location	Mendon Senior Center
Status	Approved

Present

Wayne Wagner, Don Colanton, Kathy Schofield, Jane Lowell, Mike Goddard, Lynne Roberts, Bruce Wheeler and Marcus Wenger

7:05 Call to Order

Chairman Wayne Wagner called the meeting to order.

7:05 Discussion with Bruce Wheeler

Mr. Wheeler came in to discuss the current status of the Miscoe Springs Structure on Northbridge Street. Mr. Wheeler reported that one deal had fallen through recently and he has been working with the Planning Board to find a plan to save and sell off the structure. The Planning Board agreed at their May meeting to make some adjustments on the requirements for the development. In return Mr. Wheeler would give the building and parcel to the town or give the town the equivalent of its value if he is able to sell it. Mr. Wheeler will do the legal work required to place a preservation restriction on the building to protect its exterior. The historical society can hold the preservation restriction.

In the meantime his plan is to remove the metal buildings, secure the structure and install landscape screening that will be consistent with the development.

The Historical Commission should check with the Planning Board to confirm that this would be their desired course of action for the building. Some discussion regarding the well took place. Although it would not be able to be used as a public water source a new well could be drilled for the structure.

Wayne mentioned that Anne Halsing has a Miscoe Soda Bottle Collection that she would be willing to donate. Wayne will get her in touch with Jane.

7:30 Meeting with Marcus Wenger

The Historical Commission met with Marcus Wenger to discuss the future of the house and barns located at 35 Cape Road. Mr. Wenger recently purchased the property and is trying to determine what to do with the building. He has looked at both razing the structures and moving them. He felt he may have an option to move the house near the back of the property close to Edwards Road. He has spoken to a property owner who may be willing to break off and sell the back of his lot to provide access to a house lot. He asked if any funds might be available to offset the cost of moving the house. He would need help from the Historical Commission to approach the Bylaw Review Committee and the Planning Board to see if he can get a waiver as the proposed lot would not be in conformance with the current requirements. The Commission agreed to assist with that request. Commission members asked that he consider making donations of any items that he might otherwise throw away that are of historical significance to the town. He remarked that they would be going through the house and barns in the near future and keep us posted.

7:45 Review Meeting Minutes

The meeting minutes from April were reviewed. Mike moved to accept the minutes as written. Kathy seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion to accept.

7:50 Olney Cook Shop Signs

Don suggested we go ahead and remove repetitive language in the proposed sign so we can move forward and have it fabricated. The Commission discussed getting lexan or plexi-glass coverings for the windows particularly in the basement to protect from further damage. Kathy is looking into getting a bench for the outside.

8:00 29 Hastings Street

The Commission discussed 29 Hastings Street. There has been no written response from the owner. The Commission decided to extend the deadline due to his recent medical issues. He did apologize for the incident and reached out to Jane.

8:20 Cemetery Bid Review and Award

Kathy will locate a professional to review the repair process for the Old Cemetery stones. Kai will begin some time in June. His contract has been signed.

8:30 Historic District Study Committee Report

Mike and Lynne reported they could use Memorial Day to do some outreach with the community for the Local Historic District proposal. After meeting with Chris Skelley they determined that it is very important to get people to meetings and listen to their concerns about the proposed district. The revitalization of Mendon Center may help to give the project some momentum. The Commission discussed one property local historic districts such as the Tavern or Lowell Homestead. Voter approval would still be required for individual properties.

8:45 Adjourn

Mike moved to adjourn the meeting. Lynne seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of adjourning. The next meeting will be scheduled for June 7, 2016 at 7pm.